

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3061

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JA, UR

SUBJECT: PRAVDA ON U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY (OCTOBER 2) BY EVGENIEY RUSAKOV
DISCUSSES U.S.-JAPANESE RELATIONS FOLLOWING PRESIDENT
FORD'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER TANAKA. IT ALSO
MENTIONS THE TALKS HELD BY FOREIGN MINISTER KIMURA AND
FINANCE MINISTER OHIRA WITH THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS,
AND THE PREPARATIONS FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO JAPAN
IN NOVEMBER.

2. THE ARTICLE FOCUSSES ON AREAS OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
THE U.S. AND JAPAN, NOTABLY TRADE POLICY (U.S. RESTRICTIONS
CAUSE GRAVE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN JAPAN), POLITICAL
COORDINATION (TOKYO DOES NOT SEE ITS INTEREST SERVED BY
FOLLOWING WASHINGTON'S LINE) AND SOUTH KOREA (THE U.S.
SEEKS STRONGER JAPANESE COOPERATION IN SUPPORTING THE
PAK REGIME). THESE COMPLEX CONTRADICTIONS, SAYS
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PRAVDA, MUST BE FACED BY U.S. AND JAPANESE DIPLOMATS IN

PREPARING FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO JAPAN.

3. COMMENT. THE ARTICLE IMPLIES THAT THE U.S. IS TRYING TO BULLY JAPAN, BUT THAT JAPAN IS RESISTING. WHILE POINTING TO CURRENT DIFFERENCES, HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THEY ARE INSOLUBLE. THE IMPLIED REBUKE TO THE U.S. IS A LIGHT ONE, AND INDICATES THAT MOSCOW IS WATCHING CAUTIOUSLY TO SEE HOW THE RELATIONSHIP EVOLVES.
DUBS

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